

Serial No. 09/773,935
Amdt. dated December 17, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 17, 2003

Docket No. YHK-0062

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are currently pending in the above-referenced patent application. Claims 8, 10, and 16 are amended by way of the present Amendment. Claims 22-23 are newly added by way of the present Amendment.

In the Office Action: Claims 1-3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Applicant Prior Art” in view of Ha et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,255,779). Claims 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Applicant Prior Art” in view of Ha et al. in view of Ishii et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,531,995). Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Applicant Prior Art” in view of Ha et al. and further in view of Matsuzaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,939,828). Claims 8-10, 12, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Applicant Prior Art” in view of Ishii et al. Claims 11, 13-15, and 17-21 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being otherwise allowable.

In reply to the rejection of claims 1-3 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Applicant Prior Art” in view of Ha et al, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c), subject matter developed by another person which qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) shall not preclude patentability under 35 U.S.C. § 103 where the subject matter in the claimed invention were, at the time the invention

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was made, owned by the same persons or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

The present application was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 2, 2001. Ha et al. issued as a patent on July 3, 2001. Accordingly, Ha et al. qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102 only under section (e). Further, Ha et al. and the present application are owned by LG Electronics Inc. and were both subject to obligation of assignment to LG Electronics Inc. Accordingly, under 35 U.S.C. §103(c), Ha et al. does not qualify as prior art in rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103. At least for this reason, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

In reply to the rejection of claims 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Applicant Prior Art” in view of Ha et al. and Ishii et al., the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. The present application was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 2, 2001. Ha et al. issued as a patent on July 3, 2001. Accordingly, Ha et al. qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102 only under section (e). Further, Ha et al. and the present application are owned by LG Electronics Inc. and were both subject to obligation of assignment to LG Electronics Inc. Accordingly, under 35 U.S.C. §103(c), Ha et al. does not qualify as prior art in rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103. At least for this reason, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

In reply to the rejection of claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable

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over “Applicant Prior Art” in view Ha et al. and Matsuzaki et al., the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. The present application was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 2, 2001. Ha et al. issued as a patent on July 3, 2001. Accordingly, Ha et al. qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102 only under section (e). Further, Ha et al. and the present application are owned by LG Electronics Inc. and were both subject to obligation of assignment to LG Electronics Inc. Accordingly, under 35 U.S.C. §103(c), Ha et al. does not qualify as prior art in rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103. At least for this reason, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

In reply to the rejection of claims 8-10, 12, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Applicant Prior Art” in view of Ishii et al., the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. These claims recite sustaining electrodes formed at boundary portions between discharge cells, wherein the sustaining electrodes are substantially overlapping and parallel to the boundary portions between the discharge cells.

The Office Action implies on pages 5 and 6 that the sustaining electrodes forming at boundary positions between discharge cells are disclosed in the Specification of the present application on pages 1 and 2. However, there is no disclosure that the sustaining electrodes are substantially overlapping and parallel to the boundary portions between discharge cells in the “Description of the Related Art” section of the present application.

Ishii et al. relates to a plasma display panel. However, there is no disclosure in Ishii et al.

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of sustaining electrodes formed at boundary portions between discharge cells, wherein the sustaining electrodes are substantially overlapping and parallel to the boundary portion between the discharge cells. Accordingly, Ishii et al. does not alleviate the deficiencies of "Applicant Prior Art". At least for this reason, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

Claims 11, 13-15, and 17-21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being otherwise allowable. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the objection that dependent claims 11, 13-15, and 17-21, as each of these claims is allowable for similar reasons as set forth above for either independent claim 10 or 16.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, Daniel H. Sherr at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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